UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/1
21 September 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE

Letter dated 21 September 1990 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the decisions taken by the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly at its 3rd plenary meeting pertaining to allocation of items to the Second Committee.

May I also invite your attention to the recommendations on the organization of the session, contained in section II of the report of the General Committee (A/45/250), which were approved by the General Assembly also at its 3rd plenary meeting. I earnestly request your co-operation in this regard.

(Signed) Guido de MARCO

best copy available

Allocation of items to the Second Committee

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, II, III (sections B to D and F), IV (sections A to C), VI (sections A, B and D to F) and VIII] (item 12).

[The General Assembly decided that the chapters of the report listed below would be referred also to plenary meetings and to the First, Third, Fourth and Fifth Committees:

(a)	Chapter I	Plenary meetings and Third, Fourth and Fifth Committees
(b)	Chapter III (section B)	Plenary meetings and Third and Fifth Committees
(c)	Chapter III (section D)	First Committee
(d)	Chapter IV (section A)	Plenary meetings
(e)	Chapter VI (section B)	Fifth Committee
(f)	Chapter VI (section D)	Fourth Committee
(g)	Chapter VI (section F)	Third Committee
(h)	Chapter VIII	Plenary meetings and Third Committee]

2. Development and international economic co-operation (item 79):

(a) International development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (1991-2000);

(b) Trade and development;

(c) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

(d) Food problems;

(e) New and renewable sources of energy;

(f) Development of the energy resources of developing countries.

3. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (item 80).

4. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (item 81).

5. International co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (item 82).

6. External debt crisis and development (item 83).

7. Operational activities for development (item 84).

[The General Assembly decided that the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women would be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under this item.]

(a) Operational activities of the United Nations system;

[In connection with this sub-item, the General Assembly decided that a plenary meeting would be held on Wednesday, 24 October, to observe the fortieth anniversary of multilateral technical co-operation for development within the United Nations system.]

(b) United Nations Development Programme;

(c) United Nations Population Fund;

(d) United Nations Children's Fund;

(e) World Food Programme.

8. Training and research (item 85):

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(b) United Nations University.

9. Special economic and disaster relief assistance (item 86):

(a) Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator;

(b) Special programmes of economic assistance.

10. International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola (item 87).

11. Implementation of the commitments and policies for international development co-operation agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Co-operation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries (item 148).

With regard to item 123 (Joint Inspection Unit), the General Assembly decided that the item would be allocated to the Fifth Committee with the understanding that the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit dealing with the subject-matter assigned to other Main Committees would be referred also to those Committees. In the case of the Second Committee, the relevant reports relate to agenda items 12, 79, 82 and 84.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/2
1 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 86 (b)

SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Letter dated 24 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a summary, in English, of the humanitarian assistance being provided by the European Community and its member States to the refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis in Jordan and elsewhere (see annex).

This summary contains a description of the measures taken by the Community itself and of the supporting initiatives taken by the member States of the Community to facilitate the execution of those same measures. It also contains a description of bilateral assistance given individually by the member States of the Community, both at government and non-governmental level. The summary therefore indicates the overall allocation of money or assistance, part of which has not yet been disbursed or utilized.

This summary presents a complete picture of the official assistance that has been provided to date, but of course the refugee situation is still evolving and further assistance may be required. The figures given for non-governmental organizations, however, are only estimates and in the case of some member States estimates are not available.

The information given in this document concerns only humanitarian assistance to refugees and does not include other types of assistance given to States affected by the crisis.

The total amount of assistance provided by the Community, its member States and non-governmental organizations to date is estimated to be 98.7 million ECU or $130 million.

READEX FICHE

I would be very grateful if you could have the text of the enclosed summary circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 86 (b) of the agenda (formerly item 89 (b) of the provisional agenda).

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER
Ambassador

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ANNEX

Summary of humanitarian assistance provided by the European Community and its member States to the refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis in Jordan and elsewhere

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

The emergency assistance for refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

		ECU
(a)	Repatriation programmes a/ from Amman, Ankara and Cairo. These should ensure repatriation of 71,000 people, of which 38,000 to Egypt, 21,786 to Bangladesh, 4,770 to the Philippines and 6,180 to Sri Lanka	13 743 000
(b)	Evacuation of 20,000 Pakistanis from Kuwait to Amman and provisional lodging in Jordan	1 335 000
(c)	Miscellaneous assistance (tents, blankets, medical teams, local food products, transport within Jordan etc.) b/	3 297 000
(d)	Food aid of 9,000 tonnes of wheat, 500 tonnes of vegetable oil, 200 tonnes of skimmed milk powder, 500 tonnes of rice and 200 tonnes of lentils for Jordan; and 24,000 tonnes of cereals, 1,440 tonnes of skimmed milk powder, 1,440 tonnes of vegetable oil, 480 tonnes of butter oil and 2,400 tonnes of other products for Egypt	11 200 000
	Reserve	625 000
	Subtotal	30 200 000*
	Further budget allocation made	30 000 000
	Total	60 200 000
		(or $79 439 318)

* Co-financing by the Community member States to a value of 1.7 million ECU to facilitate the execution of these programmes is included in this figure.

a/ With co-financing of other donors through the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

b/ With co-financing of non-governmental organizations, Red Crescent.

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BELGIUM

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

		BF
(a)	Repatriation of Egyptian refugees from Amman and Akaba by means of two C-130 aircraft of the Belgian Air Force for the period 25 August to 27 September 1990 c/	30 000 000
(b)	Food aid for the refugees in Jordan of 15 tons of sugar and 15 tons of powder milk sent on 25/26 August	900 000
(c)	Tents and blankets for refugees in Jordan sent through the Red Cross of Belgium on 4 September. Money allocated under this heading (BF 360 000) was used to send 15 tons of rice to the refugees on 16 September	15 000 000
(d)	Assistance to non-governmental organizations for medical and logistic support for the SHALAAN 2 camp in Jordan (containing mainly refugees from India, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh)	15 000 000
(e)	Food aid for the refugees in Jordan of 20,000 tons of wheat to Egypt, of which the first 7 will be sent at the beginning of October	200 000 000
	Total	260 900 000

(approx. 6.14 million ECU or $8.1 million)

Additional assistance is being given by non-governmental organizations through direct contributions from the public.

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c/ Project conducted jointly with the Community.

DENMARK

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

	DKr (millions)
(a) UNDRO	12
(b) IOM	1.5
(c) Danish Red Cross	5
(d) Danchurch	4
(e) Caritas	0.5
(f) Air transport assistance c/	2
Total	25

(approx. 3.2 million ECU or $4.2 million)

Additional assistance is being given by non-governmental organizations through direct contributions from the public.

FRANCE

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

		FF (millions)
(a)	Assistance to refugees in Jordan (tents, blankets, health equipment etc.)	4
(b)	Repatriation of refugees to Bangladesh by means of Air France Boeing 747 in use from 8 September for the period of a week c/	12.8
(c)	Repatriation of refugees to Egypt c/	1.4
(d)	Assistance of non-governmental organizations (Médecins sans frontières, Médecins du monde)	at least 1
	Total	19.2

(approx. 2.8 million ECU or $3.7 million)

GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF

Status as at 20 September 1990:

	DM (millions)
1. Humanitarian aid rendered by the Federal Government to date:	
(a) Airlift Amman/Cairo, 29 flights accommodating a total of 4,609 persons c/	1.3
(b) Emergency supplies, including transportation, for the refugees (55 large tents, food)	0.3
(c) Supplies by overland route (170 large tents, 20,000 blankets, 8 canteens/mobile field kitchens, 1 ton of tea)	1.1
(d) Contribution to UNDRO/IOM for the evacuation of Asian refugees from Jordan	5.0
(e) Contribution to ICRC efforts on behalf of the refugees	1.5
Total German Government aid:	9.2

2. Funds for additional aid measures in the amount of DM 25 million will probably be allocated after the third supplementary budget for 1990 has been passed. In addition, it is intended to seek from the legislature authorization to commit DM 70 million for 1991.

3. Assistance by German non-governmental organizations (NGO): d/

(a) German Red Cross: emergency supplies, secondment of one physician, 10 hospital tents and 6 ambulances, value in excess of DM 1.5 million;

(b) Caritas Germany: shipment of emergency supplies and contributions to humanitarian aid measures as well as to the repatriation of 1,800 Bangladeshis to date, valued at approximately DM 0.68 million;

(c) Diakonisches Werk of the Evangelical Church in the Federal Republic of Germany, DM 0.476 million.

Total NGO assistance: at least DM 2.656 million

Total present value of governmental and non-governmental assistance: at least DM 12.332 million

(approx. 6 million ECU or $7.9 million)

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d/ Listing of NGO assistance is incomplete; it contains only those measures which have so far come to the knowledge of the Federal Government.

IRELAND

Bilateral assistance to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

		£Ir
(a)	Repatriation of refugees to Egypt from camps on Jordan/Iraq border c/	58 000
(b)	Government assistance for relief work channelled through:	
	Irish Red Cross and ICRC	60 000
	Irish non-governmental organizations CONCERN and TROCAIRE	10 000
(c)	Assistance raised and distributed by non-governmental organizations CONCERN and TROCAIRE	
	CONCERN has allocated £Ir 200,000 for relief work, of which £Ir 72,000 has been spent on administrative assistance, refugee transfers, tents, compact rations	200 000
	TROCAIRE	
	Food, tents, medicines	10 000
	Intends to allocate £Ir 60 000 through Caritas Jordan for food aid and other supplies	60 000
	Total	398 000

(approx. 0.5 million ECU or $0.68 million)

ITALY

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis:

		Lit
(a)	Repatriation of refugees and food aid c/	1 billion
(b)	Repatriation of refugees by air from Amman to Dhaka organized by UNDRO and IOM	1 billion
(c)	Emergency supplies (tents, blankets, health equipment) channelled through UNDRO	300 million
(d)	Food aid (rice) to be sent through AIMA	2 billion
(e)	Food aid (meat) to be channelled through the World Food Programme for the Jordanian population	1 billion
(f)	Food aid (rice) for Jordan	2 billion
	Total	7.3 billion

(approx. 4.8 million ECU or $6.3 million)

Additional assistance is being given by non-governmental organizations through direct contributions from the public.

LUXEMBOURG

Bilateral assistance to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis:

		LuxF (millions)
(a)	Repatriation of Egyptian refugees c/	2.5
(b)	Assistance to Government of Egypt for the repatriation of Egyptian refugees	10
(c)	Medical and other assistance to Jordan channelled through ICRC and Médecins sans frontières	10
(d)	Repatriation of Bangladeshi refugees	10
(e)	Repatriation of refugees from Turkey	10
	Total	42.5

(1,000,143 ECU or $1,319,778)

Additional assistance is being given by non-governmental organizations through direct contributions from the public.

NETHERLANDS

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

		Guilders
(a)	Airlift out of Amman for refugees c/	1 000 000
(b)	Assistance to UNICEF for Egyptian and Asian refugees in Jordan	350 000
(c)	Assistance to Médecins sans frontières e/ for Egyptian and Asian refugees in Jordan	350 000
(d)	Assistance to Red Cross/Red Crescent for Egyptian and Asian refugees in Jordan	350 000
(e)	Assistance to Red Cross/Red Crescent via the Netherlands Red Cross for Asian repatriates	500 000
(f)	Assistance to UNICEF for Asian repatriates	300 000
(g)	Assistance to Médecins sans frontières e/ for transit camps between Iraq and Jordan	238 000
(h)	Assistance to International Organization for Migration for repatriation of Asian refugees from Jordan (and eventually from Turkey)	2 000 000
(i)	Food aid through UNDRO and Médecins sans frontières e/	500 000
	Total	5 588 000

(approx. 2.4 million ECU or $3.2 million)

Additional assistance is being given by non-governmental organizations through direct contributions from the public.

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e/ Netherlands branch.

PORTUGAL

In addition to the assistance rendered within the framework of the European Community, the Portuguese Government has decided:

		Escudos (millions)
(a)	To send to the refugee camps located at the border of Jordan and Iraq a team of four doctors, a team of nurses and other aid personnel and the establishment of a provisional emergency hospital and medicine	15
(b)	To send on 21 September a Hercules C-130 aircraft from the Portuguese Air Force, which will be transporting the teams and equipment	7.5
(c)	From Amman, the aircraft will make two flights to Cairo carrying Egyptian refugees who remain in Jordan. The same offer was also transmitted to the Moroccan Government	
(d)	Two daily flights from Amman to Cairo for 10 days for repatriation of refugees	32.5
	Total	55

(approx. 300,950 ECU or $397,120)

SPAIN

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis is as follows:

		Pesetas (millions)
(a)	Repatriation of 900 refugees by Hercules C-130 aircraft from Amman to Cairo from 1 to 5 September c/	6.9
(b)	Repatriation of refugees by Airbus A-300 to Egypt, Pakistan and the Philippines over a period of 10 days from 18 September	
(c)	Miscellaneous assistance (field tents and beds, blankets, baby milk, 1 ton of medicines and medical equipment and first aid kits)	56
(d)	Food aid to Jordan consisting of 3,000 tons of cereal equivalent. Spain has also contacted the Egyptian Government to identify needs in food aid or other equipment	400
	Total	463

(approx. 3.6 million ECU or $4.8 million)

Additional assistance is being given by non-governmental organizations through direct contributions from the public.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Bilateral aid to refugees from the Iraq/Kuwait crisis in Jordan, Turkey and Saudi Arabia is as follows:

Government assistance

		£
(a)	To ICRC/Jordanian Red Crescent to meet initial influx (24 August)	500 000
(b)	25,000 blankets and 2.5 tonnes of medicines via Virgin Atlantic flight (4 September)	105 000
(c)	To programme of International Organization for Migration to repatriate nationals of Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the Philippines from Jordan, Turkey and Saudi Arabia (6 September)	2 000 000
(d)	To cost of Virgin Atlantic flight to Jordan carrying 54 tonnes of food (11 September)	33 000
(e)	To transport costs of Virgin Atlantic flight carrying relief supplies to Jordan raised by public appeal	108 000
(f)	To cost of British Airways Tristar undertaking evacuation flights to Bombay and Dhaka	Not yet known
	Subtotal	2 746 000

Assistance from non-governmental organizations

(g)	Disasters Emergency Committee Public Appeal for humanitarian relief work in Jordan	1 700 000
(h)	British Red Cross, cash and relief supplies to Jordan and Egypt	147 000
(i)	UNICEF, cash for humanitarian work in Jordan	50 000
	Subtotal	1 897 000
	Total	4 643 000

(approx. 6.8 million ECU or $9 million)

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/3
11 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 10 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the New Delhi Statement which was adopted by participants from 115 countries at the Global Consultation on Safe Water and Sanitation for the 1990s, held in New Delhi, India, from 10 to 14 September 1990.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this statement circulated as a document under agenda item 12 (Report of the Economic and Social Council).

(Signed) C. R. Gharekhan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

NEW DELHI STATEMENT

SOME FOR ALL RATHER THAN MORE FOR SOME

Safe water supplies and environmental sanitation are vital for protecting the environment, improving health and alleviating poverty. Disease, drudgery and millions of deaths every year are directly attributable to lack of these essential services. The poor, especially women and children, are the main victims.

Concerted efforts during the 1980s brought water and sanitation services to hundreds of millions of the world's poorest people. But even this unprecedented progress was not enough. One in three people in the developing world still lack these two most basic requirements for health and dignity.

Every developing country learned its own lessons during the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990). The global community must now more effectively combine these experiences with a renewed commitment to sustainable water and sanitation systems for all. Access to water and sanitation is not simply a technical issue; it is a crucial component of social and economic development. Sustainable and socially acceptable services can be extended by using appropriate technologies, adopting community management and enhancing human resources.

Political commitment is essential and must be accompanied by intensive efforts to raise awareness through communication and mobilization of all sections of society.

The challenge

Entering the 1990s, Governments face formidable challenges. Population growth continues apace. Infrastructure in many cities is stretched to the breaking point. Uncontrolled pollution is putting greater stress on the living environment. Depletion and degradation of water resources are causing the costs of new water supplies to escalate. Without fundamentally new approaches, the broad-scale deprivation will turn into an unmanageable crisis.

Creating the right conditions for accelerated progress will often involve profound institutional, economic and social changes, as well as reallocation of resources and responsibilities at all levels.

To achieve full coverage by the year 2000 using conventional technologies and approaches would require five times the current level of investment. However, there is a realistic two-pronged alternative:

(a) Substantial reduction in costs of services, through increased efficiency and use of low-cost appropriate technologies;

(b) Mobilization of additional funds from existing and new sources, including Governments, donors and consumers.

If costs were halved and financial resources at least doubled, universal coverage could be within range by the end of the century.

Guiding principles

For countries taking up the challenge - "Some for all, rather than more for some", the New Delhi Global Consultation recommends four Guiding Principles:

1. Protection of the environment and safeguarding of health through the integrated management of water resources and liquid and solid wastes;

2. Institutional reforms promoting an integrated approach and including changes in procedures, attitudes and behaviour, and the full participation of women at all levels in sector institutions;

3. Community management of services, backed by measures to strengthen local institutions in implementing and sustaining water and sanitation programmes;

4. Sound financial practices, achieved through better management of existing assets, and widespread use of appropriate technologies.

Principle No. 1: The environment and health

Safe water and proper means of waste disposal are essential for environmental sustainability and better human health, and must be at the centre of integrated water resources management.

Rapid population growth and accelerating urbanization threaten health and the environment, presenting Governments with daunting challenges in the 1990s. The poor, especially women and children, will continue to be the hardest hit.

Every day, water-related diseases cause the deaths of thousands of children, and untold suffering and loss of working time for millions. Safe water combined with improved hygiene and better nutrition can reduce, and sometimes even eliminate, these diseases.

The dramatic reduction of dracunculiasis (Guinea worm disease) has resulted from the provision of improved water supplies and hygiene education in endemic areas. The target of total eradication by 1995 should be fully supported. Affected countries should accord it high priority in investment programmes.

Toxic and industrial wastes pose increasing dangers to the environment in developing countries. They represent a significant threat to human health through direct contact and the pollution of water and soil. Governments and responsible agencies must take steps to control these health hazards.

Improvements to the household environment can best be achieved through the community's involvement as an equal partner with government and sector agencies. This means building on indigenous knowledge so that policies and programmes are credible and relevant to the beneficiaries. Emphasis must be placed on education, social mobilization and community participation.

Proper drainage and disposal of solid wastes have a major impact on the neighbourhood environment. New solutions are needed which are environmentally appropriate and affordable to the communities they serve and which also conserve water resources and minimize pollution.

Integrated water resources management is necessary to combat increasing water scarcity and pollution. This includes water conservation and reuse, water harvesting and waste management. An appropriate mix of legislation, pricing policies and enforcement measures are essential to optimize water conservation and protection.

Principle No. 2: People and institutions

Strong institutions are essential for sustainable development.

They require sound management, motivated people and an enabling environment of appropriate policies, legislation and incentives. Institutional development takes time. The short-term achievement of production targets should not take precedence over the need for capacity building. The overall objective is achieving sustainable facilities which are used effectively by the beneficiaries.

A changing role of Government is envisaged, from that of provider to that of promoter and facilitator. This will enable local public, private and community institutions to deliver better services. Decentralization demands a strong policy and support role from central governments, while local private enterprise can assist in improving the efficiency and expansion of service delivery.

The special role in development of non-governmental organizations and volunteers must be acknowledged and strengthened. Non-governmental organizations are flexible, credible, ready and able to experiment with innovative approaches. Governments should support non-governmental organizations in replicating these approaches, and include them, wherever appropriate, as partners in projects.

Human resources development at all levels, from community members to politicians, is essential to institutional development. Training of professionals, managers, technicians and extension workers builds competence and confidence. Information, education and communication strategies must be integrated within human resources development policies. Women must be trained and guaranteed equal employment opportunities at all levels of staff and management. National professional associations can play an important role in better human resources development.

Education is a key part of the new approach. Schools offer a vast, most receptive audience for hygiene education. Polytechnics and universities already include water and sanitation-related subjects in their curricula, but must be encouraged to respond to this sector's needs for multidisciplinary skills. Sanitary and environmental engineering curricula should incorporate substantial elements of community development, communications, appropriate technology and project management.

Principle No. 3: Community management

Community management goes beyond simple participation. It aims to empower and equip communities to own and control their own systems.

Community management is a key to sustaining services for the rural poor and is a viable option for poor urban settlements. Government should support community management through legislation and extension and give it priority in national sector strategies for the 1990s.

Communities should have prominent roles in planning, resource mobilization and all subsequent aspects of development. Within these strategies, gender issues will be all important. Women should be encouraged to play influential roles in both water management and hygiene education. Capacity building is necessary to make community management effective and enable women to play leading roles.

Linkages must be established to ensure that national plans and programmes are responsive to community needs and desires. Methods for evaluating community management have been developed for rural areas. They should now be adopted at the national level and implemented through participatory monitoring and evaluation techniques.

Principle No. 4: Finance and technology

Given the number of people unserved and the growing demand, more effective financial strategies must be adopted in the 1990s for the long-term sustainability of the sector.

Current levels of investment in the sector are about $US 10 billion per year. It is estimated that approximately $US 50 billion a year would be needed to reach full coverage by the year 2000, using conventional approaches. Such a five-fold increase is not immediately feasible.

New strategies should aim towards two key objectives:

(a) Increased efficiency in the use of available funds;

(b) Mobilization of additional funds from existing and new sources, including Governments, donors and consumers.

Substantially increased effectiveness in the use of financial resources can yield major gains in sustained coverage. This will require changes in the way service agencies operate to make them more cost-effective and responsive to consumer needs and demands. Involving consumers in choice of technology and service levels has proved to have a positive impact on cost recovery and sustainability.

A powerful case can be made for greater government and external agency support. However, economic and social benefits need to be better quantified. Clear sector strategies and action plans increase the likelihood of water and sanitation programmes receiving higher priority in national planning processes. They may also make the sector more attractive for support from external support agencies.

The high debt burden of many developing countries makes it particularly difficult for them to consider loans at market interest rates for all investments in this sector. With this in mind, lending agencies and donors are urged to look favourably on requests for grants or soft loans to support water and sanitation programmes. External support agencies can also help by developing procedures or guidelines which will reduce project preparation and approval time. Support should also be given for the establishment of financial intermediaries to make credit more widely available.

Restructuring the utilization of funds for sector investments and setting user charges are key issues in sector finance. Maximum benefits can be accrued by allocating a higher proportion of funds to affordable and appropriate projects in rural and low-income urban areas, where needs are greatest.

Rehabilitation of defective systems, reductions in wastage and unaccounted for water, recycling and reuse of waste water, and improved operation and maintenance can often be more effective than investment in new services. Choices of technology and levels of service are major factors in determining construction, operation and maintenance costs of new projects. Due attention must be given to operation and maintenance arrangements which will ensure sustainability before investments are made.

Higher budget allocations and recovery of recurrent costs of operation and maintenance to ensure system sustainability are the primary goals to be achieved. Effective cost recovery requires that sector institutions be given autonomy and authority. Further, there must be widespread promotion of the fact that safe water is not a free good. Appropriate charging mechanisms must be adopted, which reflect local socio-cultural and economic conditions. Collection should be decentralized so that revenues are available for management and operation of services.

Public sector institutions frequently default on payments for water supply and waste disposal services. For reasons of financial viability and equity, this practice is unacceptable. Increasing collection efficiency must be part of better financial management.

Research and development in developing countries has resulted in widespread application of much improved handpump and on-site sanitation technologies. The momentum established during the 1980s must be maintained and increased in the next 10 years. Among the priority needs for the 1990s are improved household technologies for protecting water quality from source to mouth and low-cost waste-water disposal systems for low-income urban areas. Exchanges of information and experience among developing countries (South-South co-operation) must be further developed.

Follow-up

Implementation of the approaches outlined in this Statement will need to be part of country specific strategies.

Countries and external support agencies are urged to formulate and implement action plans for water and sanitation incorporating the Guiding Principles of the New Delhi Statement. The United Nations Development Programme is invited to take a leading role in this process, in collaboration with other agencies of the United Nations system.

The Water and Sanitation Collaborative Council, created immediately prior to the New Delhi Global Consultation, offers a new global forum for the exchange of information and promotion of the sector.

This New Delhi Statement will be reflected in a document to be presented to the World Summit for Children in late September 1990, along with a statement initiated by the United Nations Children's Fund on behalf of children, which was adopted at the Global Consultation.

The New Delhi Statement will be presented by the Government of India to the forty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly in October 1990.

In addition, it is recommended that this Statement be brought to the attention of the organizers of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Brazil, with a request that it be tabled to emphasize the special importance of water and sanitation in environmental management.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/ 4
18 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ARABIC/CHINESE/
ENGLISH/FRENCH/
RUSSIAN/SPANISH

أعضاء اللجنة الثانية
第二委员会成员
MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
MEMBRES DE LA DEUXIÈME COMMISSION
ЧЛЕНЫ ВТОРОГО КОМИТЕТА
MIEMBROS DE LA SEGUNDA COMISION

ملحوظة : يرجى من الوفود التي تريد إدخال أية تصحيحات على القائمة التالية أن ترسلها ، كتابة ، الى أمين اللجنة ، الغرفة رقم S-2977A، مبنى الأمانة العامة .

注意：请各代表团把对以下名单的更正用书面送交秘书处大楼第 S-2977A，室的委员会秘书。

NOTE Delegations are requested to send their corrections to the following list in writing to the Secretary of the Committee, room S-2977A, Secretariat Building.

NOTE Les délégations sont priées d'envoyer leurs corrections à la présente liste, par écrit, au Secretaire de la Commission, bureau S-2977A, Bâtiment du Secretariat.

ПРИМЕЧАНИЕ Делегациям предлагается послать свои исправления к настоящему списку в письменной форме секретарю Комитета, комната S-2977A, здание Секретариата.

NOTA Se ruega a las delegaciones se sirvan enviar sus correcciones a la siguiente lista, por escrito, al Secretario de la Comisión, oficina S-2977A, Edificio de la Secretaría.

الرئيس
主席
Chairman
Président
Председатель
Presidente
Mr. George Papadatos (Greece)

نائب الرئيس
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СПЕЦИАЛИЗИРОВАННЫЕ УЧРЕЖДЕНИЯ
ORGANISMOS ESPECIALIZADOS

	المثـــل 代表 REPRESENTATIVE REPRÉSENTANT ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬ REPRESENTANTE	الممثلون المناوبون 候补代表 ALTERNATES SUPPLÉANTS ЗАМЕСТИТЕЛИ SUPLENTES	المستشارون 顾问 ADVISERS CONSEILLERS СОВЕТНИКИ CONSEJEROS
International Fund for Agricultural Development			
United Nations Industrial Development Organization			
	* * *		
International Atomic Energy Agency	Ms. M. O'Dell		
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	Mr. Alain Frank		

المنظمات التي تلقت دعوة دائمة
للاشتراك في دورات وأعمال
الجمعية العامة بصفة مراقبين

收到以观察员身份参加
大会各届会议及工作的
长期有效的邀请的组织

ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE RECEIVED A STANDING INVITATION
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SESSIONS AND WORK
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS OBSERVERS

ORGANISATIONS AYANT RECU UNE INVITATION PERMANENTE
A PARTICIPER AUX SESSIONS ET AUX TRAVAUX
DE L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE EN QUALITE D'OBSERVATEURS

ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ, ПОЛУЧАЮЩИЕ ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРИГЛАШЕНИЕ
УЧАСТВОВАТЬ НА СЕССИЯХ И В РАБОТЕ ГЕНЕРАЛЬНОЙ
АССАМБЛЕИ В КАЧЕСТВЕ НАБЛЮДАТЕЛЕЙ

ORGANIZACIONES QUE HAN RECIBIDO UNA INVITACION PERMANENTE
A PARTICIPAR EN LOS PERIODOS DE SESIONES Y EN LOS
TRABAJOS DE LA ASAMBLEA GENERAL EN CALIDAD DE OBSERVADORAS

Commonwealth Secretariat	
European Economic Community	Mr. Brian MacDonald Mr. Thierry Rornel Mr. Alain Cuccenbuhl

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/5
12 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 79

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Letter dated 2 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the Secretary-General transmitting the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Least Developed Countries

On behalf of the least developed countries members of the United Nations, I have the honour to state that the first meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the least developed countries was held at United Nations Headquarters on 1 October 1990 under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Hussain Muhammad Ershad, President of Bangladesh. The meeting adopted a Declaration, which is annexed herewith.

I have the honour to request you to arrange to have this letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under item 82 of the agenda.

(Signed) A. H. G. Mohiuddin
Permanent Representative

Annex

DECLARATION OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

The Heads of State and Government of the least developed countries, participating at the World Summit for Children, met at United Nations Headquarters on 1 October 1990 to review all aspects of the prevailing endemic development crisis in the least developed countries. Expressing their deep concern over the continuing deterioration of the socio-economic situation in the least developed countries, they noted that unabated decline in the standard of living in those countries and their deepening poverty posed a major challenge to the entire international community.

The Heads of State and Government noted that the current development impasse in the least developed countries, aggravated by a stagnating or declining flow of development resources, mounting external indebtedness, a resurgence of protectionist measures, a sharp decline in commodity prices and a secular decline in the terms of trade of the least developed countries was imposing intense strain on their political and social fabric.

The current turbulence on the intenational scene created by the Gulf crisis would make the development of the least developed countries an even more uphill task. The Heads of State and Government consequently urged the international community to undertake special measures on a priority basis to assist the least developed countries to cope with the resulting problems.

The Heads of State and Government underscored that the pressures on the least developed countries must be relieved by a decisive improvement in the pace and character of their development. They also noted that in order to reactivate growth and development in those countries, effective measures must be undertaken to overcome their most formidable structural handicaps and to relieve external constraints to their development. In that context, the Heads of State and Government welcomed the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s adopted by that Conference for the current decade.

The Heads of State and Government expressed their firm conviction that the international community, particularly the developed partners of the least developed countries, would fully implement the international support measures identified in the New Programme of Action to complement the national efforts of the least developed countries. They particularly appealed to the international community to enhance their contribution to the development of the least developed countries in all relevant sectors of their economies through greater support and assistance to those countries in the form of an enhanced flow of external resources for development, including foreign direct investment, effective and comprehensive debt relief measures to cover all types of debts, greater market access and new initiatives to compensate effectively for the shortfall in the export earnings of the least developed countries due to commodity price fluctuations.

The Heads of State and Government also noted that the United Nations and the organs, bodies, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system also had a special responsibility for the pursuit of the goals and objectives of the new Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries. They urged the Secretary-General of the United Nations to mobilize all resources and undertake the necessary measures, in active collaboration with all relevant organs, bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, which would enable the entire system to live up to the challenge.

In particular, the Heads of State and Government emphasized that the Special Programme on the Least Developed Countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should be strengthened and upgraded so as to enable it fully and effectively to discharge its mandate as the focal point for global review and monitoring of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the 1990s.

The Heads of State and Government also urged all multilateral financial institutions, regional banks and other development funds to extend the necessary help to the least developed countries and to take into account the special needs of those countries in all their programmes and operations.

The Heads of State and Government also took note of and expressed their support for the decision of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to invite the General Assembly to consider inclusion of Namibia in the list of least developed countries.

Finally, the Heads of State and Government also commended the welcome initiative by all the least developed countries increasingly to co-ordinate their position to articulate effectively their various concerns and development priorities. They expressed the hope that efforts would continue to improve their present arrangement for co-ordinated action and also to widen the scope for such co-ordination within the United Nations system, the Group of 77 and other international fora.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/6
22 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

Letter dated 11 October 1990 from the Chairman of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee of the General Assembly on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 24 September 1990 addressed to me by the President of the General Assembly (A/C.5/45/5), by which he informed me that at the 3rd plenary meeting of the forty-fifth session, held on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly had decided to allocate agenda item 119 (Programme planning), among others, to the Fifth Committee.

By its resolution 36/228 A of 18 December 1981, section I, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) on the work of its twenty-first session. 1/ One of such recommendations is contained in paragraph 471 of the CPC report, which states that:

> "Each chapter of the proposed medium-term plan should be submitted to the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly before the plan as a whole is adopted by the General Assembly in plenary meeting."

At its current session, the General Assembly has before it the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/6), the summary of comments and recommendations made by Member States and intergovernmental bodies since 1988 on the draft introduction to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/279), as well as the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its thirtieth session (A/45/16 (Parts I and II)).

The annex to this letter indicates, for each programme of the proposed plan, the relevant Main Committee(s) to which it should be referred.

In order to enable the Fifth Committee to take fully into account the views which the Member States may wish to express in the Second Committee on the relevant programmes of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, it would be appreciated if such views were to be communicated to the Fifth Committee not later than 9 November 1990.

(Signed) E. Besley MAYCOCK
Chairman of the Fifth Committee
of the General Assembly

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38), chap. VII.

/...

Annex

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997 AND RELATED DOCUMENTS IN PLENARY MEETING AND THE MAIN COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Programmes and related documents	To be referred to
Introduction to the plan, a/ annex to the Introduction, b/ and note by the Secretariat containing a summary of the comments and recommendations made by Member States and intergovernmental bodies since 1988 on the Introduction to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 c/	Plenary and all Main Committees
Programmes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 37 and 45	Plenary
Programmes 1, 2 and 7	First Committee
Programmes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 35, 36 and 38	Special Political Committee
Programmes 11 to 24, 30 to 34, 37 and 45	Second Committee
Programmes 11, 12, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 and 36	Third Committee
Programmes 1 and 4	Fourth Committee
Programmes 39 to 44	Fifth Committee
Programme 9	Sixth Committee

a/ A/45/6 (Introduction).

b/ A/45/6 (Annex to the Introduction).

c/ A/45/279.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/7
31 October 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 26 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should appreciate it if you would circulate the following Security Council documents: S/21653 of 27 August 1990, S/21713 of 5 September 1990, S/21730 of 9 September 1990, S/21777 of 17 September 1990 and S/21865 of 10 October 1990 as official documents of the General Assembly under the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council". 1/

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Notes

1/ See documents A/45/689, A/45/690, A/45/691, A/45/692 and A/45/693.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/8
1 November 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda items 12 and 86

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

Letter dated 29 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Ecuador has decided, by Executive Decree No. 1649 of 2 July 1990 (see annex), to establish a High-level National Commission to address the problems relating to natural disaster reduction.

The objective of the national Government in creating this High-level Commission is to protect the population, and the country as a whole, from the destructive effects of natural disasters and to ensure that they do not impede economic and social development, a goal that is compatible with the terms of General Assembly resolution 44/236 and, in particular, with the objectives of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/17 and General Assembly resolutions 42/205 and 43/211, which promote the implementation of projects in co-operation with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO).

Since the Presidential Decree is pertinent to items 86 and 12 of the agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, I would appreciate it if you would have this letter and its annex issued as documents of the General Assembly.

(Signed) José AYALA LASSO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

No. 1649

Rodrigo Borja Cevallos

Constitutional President of the Republic

Considering:

That the United Nations General Assembly, recalling its resolution 3345, of 17 December 1974, requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take appropriate measures to reduce the risks and mitigate the effects of natural disasters for all people during the 1990s, as agreed in resolution No. 169, of 11 December 1987:

That Ecuador, through its representative to the United Nations, undertook a formal commitment to set up a high-level body to guide decision-making in matters pertaining to the prevention of disasters and emergency assistance and rehabilitation during the 1990s; and,

In the exercise of his legal powers,

Decrees:

Art. 1. - The High-level Commission is hereby created to address problems relating to natural disaster reduction during the 1990s, with organs responsible for the direction, planning and provision of advisory services in matters relating to the prevention of disasters and emergency assistance and rehabilitation.

Art. 2. - In order to fulfil its objectives, the Commission shall seek to promote political and economic action by the State on behalf of Civil Defence activities.

Art. 3. - The Commission shall be composed of the following members, who shall not delegate their functions.

- The Secretary-General of Public Administration, who shall preside over the Commission.

- The Directors of the four Action Fronts established by Art. 18 of the National Security Act; and,

- The Secretary-General of the National Security Council.

The Commission shall meet when convened by its Chairman, and shall adopt its decisions by a simple majority.

Art. 4. - The National Directorate of Civil Defence shall serve as the permanent working secretariat of the Commission.

Art. 5. - The resources for carrying out the activities specified in article 1 shall be requested by the Commission from the Ministry of Social Welfare; they shall be charged against the National Emergency Fund (FONEN) and allocated to specific programmes and projects in accordance with the regulations established for the use of the Fund.

Art. 6. - This Decree, which shall enter into force from the date of its publication, shall be executed by the Secretaries-General of Public Administration and of the National Security Council and all the Ministers of State.

Done at the National Palace in Quito on 2 July 1990.

(Signed) Rodrigo Borja, Constitutional President of the Republic;
(Signed) Luis Félix Lopez, Acting Minister of the Interior and Police;
(Signed) Diego Cordovez, Minister for Foreign Affairs;
(Signed) Division General Jorge Félix Mena, Minister of National Defence;
(Signed) Pablo Córdova Cordero, Acting Minister of Finance and Public Credit;
(Signed) Alfredo Vera, Minister of Education, Culture and Sports;
(Signed) Juan Neira Carrasco, Minister of Public Works and Communications;
(Signed) César Verduga, Minister of Labour and Human Resources;
(Signed) Mario Jalil Rodríguez, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock;
(Signed) Hugo Mario Valarezo, Acting Minister of Industry, Commerce, Integration and Fisheries;
(Signed) Diego Tamariz, Minister of Energy and Mines;
(Signed) Plutarco Naranjo, Minister of Public Health;
(Signed) Raúl Baca Carbo, Minister of Social Welfare and Public Promotion.

This copy certified by:

(Signed) Washington Herrera, Secretary-General of Public Administration

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UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/9
15 November 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 79 (d)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:
FOOD PROBLEMS

Letter dated 8 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I would be grateful if you would circulate the following communiqué, adopted at the Cairns Ministerial Meeting in Geneva on 5 November, as an official document of the General Assembly under item 79 (d) entitled "Development and international economic co-operation: Food problems" on behalf of the Cairns Group (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Uruguay).

(Signed) Peter WILENSKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Geneva Meeting of Cairns Group Ministers
5 November 1990

Ministers and representatives of the Cairns Group (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Uruguay) met in Geneva on 5 November 1990.

The meeting was held to assess recent developments and to lay the foundations for future action in the Uruguay Round. In advance of their deliberations, Ministers received a report on the state of the overall negotiations from GATT Director-General, Arthur Dunkel. They also took note of the assessments made by delegations at the 2 November meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee. Specifically on agriculture, they received a briefing from negotiating group Chairman, Aart De Zeeuw.

Ministers concluded that the Uruguay Round negotiations as a whole were now running desperately short of time. Despite efforts at senior official level over recent days, under Director-General Dunkel's auspices, only limited progress had been made and negotiations in several key areas were effectively stalled.

Ministers concluded, moreover, that the agricultural negotiations were in a state of crisis. There had been no effective engagement on agriculture since the July Trade Negotiations Committee meeting. Positions were far apart, with only 28 days remaining before the Brussels Ministerial meeting scheduled to conclude the Uruguay Round. Furthermore, lack of any engagement on agriculture was adversely affecting progress in most other areas of the Round including natural-resource-based products, textiles, tropical products and other market access negotiating groups.

Ministers stressed that the European Community and its member States bore the responsibility for this crisis. Other key delegations, including the developed and developing countries of the Cairns Group, had submitted their offers in accordance with the framework proposed by Mr. De Zeeuw, by the due date of 15 October. Although three weeks had since elapsed, the Community had still tabled neither an offer nor the information required to allow negotiations to proceed.

Ministers considered that by this lack of action, the Community showed total disregard for undertakings given in the Punta Del Este Declaration which launched the Uruguay Round in 1986, the Mid-term Review Agreement of April 1989 and the July 1990 Agreement to put offers on the table by 15 October.

Cairns Ministers also recalled that the Houston Economic Summit participants had emphasized that they were ready to "exercise the political leadership necessary to ensure the successful outcome of these negotiations". Ministers thus called upon the European Community to recognize that given the central importance of agricultural reform, further procrastination will put the whole endeavour of the Uruguay Round and consequently the multilateral trading system at serious risk. They should recognize as well that if the Round fails, it is the Economic Community which must shoulder the blame.

/...

Cairns Group Ministers called upon the Community to table its offer and country list without further delay, so as to allow negotiations on agriculture to proceed and thereby remove the blockage that had been created. It was simply unrealistic for the Community to expect progress to be made elsewhere in the Uruguay Round while it continued to stall on agriculture.

At the same time, Cairns Ministers noted with concern reports that the proposed Community offer might contemplate minimal reductions in internal support levels over the next five years, the absence of any effective opportunity for improved market access and the absence of any specific commitment to reduce export subsidies. Furthermore, Ministers were concerned at reports that Community member States might attach additional requirements, such as rebalancing and increased protection for some products which run counter to the trade liberalizing objective of the Round. The Community would need to demonstrate that its offer did not have a "take it or leave it" character.

Cairns Ministers noted that such an offer would clearly be inconsistent with the De Zeeuw framework for the negotiations and fall far short of the objective, agreed by Ministers at the Mid-term Review meeting, of achieving "substantial progressive reductions in agricultural support and protection".

Cairns Ministers indicated that when a Community offer was tabled their officials would be directed to engage immediately in intensive negotiations to establish whether sufficient flexibility existed to secure the agreed objective of substantial and progressive reductions in support and protection; and whether the Community and others, including Japan and certain European Free Trade Association countries, are willing to engage seriously in negotiating specific commitments in the areas of internal support, import access and export subsidies, in addition to pursuing a positive outcome on sanitary and phytosanitary measures, all in accordance with agreed negotiating objectives and commitments, taking into account special and differential treatment for developing countries.

Cairns Ministers consider that, on this basis, it should be clear by mid-November whether the Brussels Ministerial meeting has any prospect of agreeing to a substantial settlement on agriculture along the above lines as part of an overall package to conclude the Uruguay Round. If this is not the case, all participants in the negotiations would need to assess the implications for the further conduct of the Uruguay Round and for the future of the entire multilateral trading system.

In that context, Cairns Ministers recalled the determination they expressed at their meeting in Santiago de Chile in July that the Uruguay Round cannot and will not conclude, in whole or in part, without a substantial outcome on agriculture.

In reaching their conclusions, Cairns Ministers stressed that it was important that all participants recognize what is at stake in this Round outside agriculture. We have the opportunity to revitalize the world trading system - to achieve a further multilateral lowering of industrial tariffs, and the phase-out of non-tariff barriers, and so-called grey area protection, which have bedevilled the trading system over recent years. We have the opportunity to expand the

multilateral framework to cover the fast-growing area of services trade so that world service industries can compete on a fairer, more open and predictable basis.

There is little doubt that failure of this Round will see an unleashing of protectionist forces which have been building up in recent years, particularly in the climate of economic uncertainty which faces the world at this moment. We risk a further breakdown of the multilateral framework, a loss of predictability and stability in trading conditions and a growth of inward-looking trading blocs. While developing countries would suffer greatly from such an outcome, the cost for competitive industries in the industrialized world would be equally enormous. Any wrong signal from the Round at this time would have unforeseeable negative effects on each and every country's economic activity and on overall prospects for a sustained increase in world trade and prosperity.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/10
19 November 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 7 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In its resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987 on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the General Assembly proclaimed the Decade, beginning on 1 January 1990, and adopted the "International Framework of Action" for the Decade.

Under the International Framework of Action for the Decade, provision has been made for the establishment of national committees and co-ordinating centres with a view to attaining the objective and the goals of the Decade (see para. 3 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 44/236).

The Spanish Government, which is carrying out and promoting various initiatives to make for greater effectiveness in activities related to the prevention and management of emergency situations arising from natural disasters, considers that the implementation of the aforementioned resolution provides an opportunity for stepping up activities of this kind in Spain, and for taking part in international action, especially as it relates to the developing countries.

At its meeting of 26 October 1990, the Spanish Government approved the establishment of "The Spanish Committee for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction". The functions of this Committee will be performed by the Plenary of the National Civil Defence Commission, established by Royal Decree 154/1980 of 24 July and modified by Royal Decree of 26 October 1990.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 12.

(Signed) Francisco VILLAR
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

90-31310 2481a (E)

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/11
23 November 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 79 (b)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 23 November 1990 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Second Committee

I have the honour to enclose herewith, for any appropriate action by the Second Committee, a letter dated 20 November 1990, addressed to me by the President of the Trade and Development Board relating to agenda sub-item 79 (b) entitled "Development and international co-operation: Trade and development".

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Guido de MARCO

Annex

Dear Mr. President,

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 44/219, paragraph 10, in which the Assembly took note of Board decision 377 (XXXVI) on arrangements and preparations for the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held in 1991, including the agreement to hold consultations on its location in Latin America.

These consultations, which were conducted first by my predecessor H.E. Mr. Oscar R. de Rojas (Venezuela), President of the Trade and Development Board at its thirty-sixth session, and later by myself, have come to a successful conclusion, and I am now in a position, on behalf of the Board, to recommend through you, for approval by the General Assembly, that UNCTAD VIII be held at Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 21 September to 8 October 1991.

The offer of the Government of Uruguay to host the Conference at Punta del Este was made after the Government was informed of the implications of hosting the Conference, both in terms of the facilities required, and in terms of the estimated additional direct or indirect costs to the United Nations that would need to be defrayed, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243.

Members of the Trade and Development Board have warmly welcomed the generous invitation of the Government of Uruguay and I should like to take this opportunity to express my own personal satisfaction, and that of the Board membership as a whole, at this welcome outcome to a question which has preoccupied the board for some time, as the venue in Latin America will reinstate the previous pattern of rotation of the Conference among the different groups of the developing world.

On the question of dates, the Government of Uruguay has indicated that it would not be in a position to host the Conference at Punta del Este before late September 1991. In this light, the recommended dates for the Conference are from Saturday, 21 September 1991 to Tuesday, 8 October 1991, preceded by the usual two days of pre-Conference consultations among senior officials on 19 and 20 September, particularly to minimize any necessary overlap with the work of the General Assembly, particularly its Second Committee.

I should be most grateful if you could inform the relevant organs of the General Assembly of the recommendations I have mentioned above, with a view to the General Assembly taking an appropriate decision to convene the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 21 September to 8 October 1991.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Jean-David LEVITTE
President of the Trade and Development Board

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/12
28 November 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda items 79, 80 and 81

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND
FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

Letter dated 14 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my capital I have the honour to submit the attached documents entitled:

(i) A Call to Action: Communiqué from the Seventh Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean (see annex I);

(ii) The Port-of-Spain Accord on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment (see annex II).

I should be grateful if this letter and its attachments could be circulated as official documents of the General Assembly under agenda items 79, 80 and 81.

(Signed) Marjorie THORPE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

A CALL TO ACTION

COMMUNIQUE FROM THE SEVENTH MINISTERIAL MEETING ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Ministers and Representatives of countries participating in the VII Ministerial meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean held in Port-of-Spain, 22-23 October, 1990, decided to conclude their deliberations with

A CALL TO ACTION

1 The VII Ministerial Meeting reaffirms the Declaration of Brasilia and reiterates the conviction that an adequate response to environmental challenges requires an unprecedented level of cooperation among countries and between regions of the world. Towards this end, and in the context of the Declaration of Brasilia, the countries participating in this Meeting approved an Action Plan for The Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2 The Plan contains programmes aimed at arresting deterioration in the physical environment, recovering and rehabilitating natural resources. It is also a framework for discharging regional obligations, as part of global resolve and effort, to stabilize the ecological systems of Planet Earth and to minimize the disequilibria caused by the manner in which humanity discharges its responsibility with respect to the Earth's resources, which it holds in trust.

3 The Meeting considered that, given the complex inter-relationship between society and nature and the inseparable linkage between environment and development, the tasks and their respective objectives can only be undertaken and achieved through enlightened attitudes and dedicated efforts on the part of all sectors within any community.

4 The Meeting recognized the strong inter-relationship that exists between environmental concerns and the development model that prevails in the world, and of the possible impacts of global environmental negotiations on the political and economic reality of the region.

5 The Meeting noted that recognition of mutual vulnerability to impacts of global changes has led to a number of important conventions, protocols, treaties, memoranda, agreements among varying groups of countries, each instrument setting out a normative framework based on the broad philosophical, political and practical concerns which underpin any issue. Although the Action Plan for the Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean takes its place among these, in essence, it represents a call to regional unity and action.

6 The Ministers expressed concern for the approach and treatment of the developed countries regarding environmental topics, which results in new conditionalities for development financing.

7 One concern of Ministers attending this Meeting is the need to apply the principles of equity and social justice in the enjoyment of the product of the earth's resources.

8 The Ministers consider the Action Plan which they have adopted at this Meeting to be a major mechanism for the preparation and presentation of the views and positions of this region at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, scheduled for June 1992 in Brazil.

9 On the basis of the above considerations, Ministers attending this VII Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean issue this

Call to Action

We commit ourselves to promote the Plan at the highest possible level, and to establish arrangements for extensive consultations and widespread participation among our people;

We reaffirm our commitment to hemispheric solidarity, to the regional cooperation system and the promotion of the Action Plan for the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean as an important instrument for strenghtening such cooperation;

We accept the Action Plan as a strategic document which must be a critical input into the regional preparatory arrangements leading to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Brazil 1992;

We urge the international community, particularly the developed countries and the multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, to recognise that the Action Plan represents a framework for environmental management in Latin America and the Caribbean and that the programmes, projects and activities developed from it reflect the will of the countries of the region;

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
October 23, 1990

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ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
Henderson Simon
Minister in the Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Economic
Development, Planning & Energy

ARGENTINA
Alberto Barbuto
Presidente (Subsecretario de Estado)
Comisión Nacional de Política Ambiental

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Director, Department of
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BARBADOS
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Ministry of Employment, Labour, Relations and Community Development

BELIZE
Victor Gonzalez
Chief Environment Officer
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BRAZIL
José Antonio Lutzenberger
Secretary
Secretary for the Environment
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DOMINICA
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Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture

CHILE
Luis Alvarado
Ministro
Ministerio de Bienes Nacionales

CUBA
Helenio Ferrer Gracia
Vicepresidente
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ECUADOR
Carlos Luzuriaga
Vice-Ministro de Medio Ambiente
Ministerio de Energía y Minas

GRENADA
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GUYANA
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Guyana Agency for Health Sciences Education, Environment and Food Policy

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Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Resources Naturelles et du Development Rural

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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Lincoln Myers
Minister
Ministry of Environment and National Service

URUGUAY
Raúl Lago
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Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente

VENEZUELA
Enrique Colmenares
Ministro
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales Renovables

ANNEX II

The Port of Spain Accord on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment

The Port of Spain Accord on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment

Issued by
The First CARICOM Ministerial Conference on the Environment

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
31 May-2 June 1989

We, Ministers of the Caribbean Community with responsibility for Environmental Matters, met in Conference in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 31 May-2 June 1989 with the objectives of

(a) achieving increased appreciation of the significance of the issues and needs relevant to management and protection of the Caribbean environment, and of the relationship between Environment and Development;

(b) identifying matters for priority attention in the Region in relation to the environment; and

(c) identifying approaches that would allow for better regional coordination and monitoring of activities, agencies and resources.

We were profoundly gratified that high-level delegations from twelve (12) Members States of the Community, and from four (4) Observer countries were present, and that we had the honour of being addressed by The Hon. A.N.R. Robinson, Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the host country, who declared the Conference open.

We were also pleased to welcome the valuable contribution to our deliberations by observer regional and international institutions which were in attendance.

In our discussions we were very conscious of the fact, as indeed the Hon. Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago reminded us in his address, that with improved understanding over the last two decades of the impact of man's activities on the environment, there has been a transformation in attitudes towards and perspectives on environmental issues in the world as a whole. We recognised that the historic 1972 Stockholm Conference on the environment spawned the foundation of the United Nations Environment Programme, the production of the 1980 World Conservation Strategy and the 1987 Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development which highlighted the relationship between the environment and sustainable development.

In our own CARICOM Region, concern about the environment has been no less intense. The spirit and policy of the Treaty of Chaguaramas establishing the Caribbean Community and the deliberations of several Community fora including the Conference of Heads of Government, the Conference of Ministers responsible for Health, and the Standing Committees of Ministers responsible for Agriculture and for Foreign Affairs, have recognised the importance of sound management of the Region's environment to the quality of life of the Region's peoples.

We have conducted our Conference in the spirit of the Declaration of Brasilia, in the formulation of which several Ministers of the Caribbean Community participated.

We therefore perceive our Conference as coming within this tradition and constituting an opportunity to provide fresh political impetus to the coordinated identification, development and execution of policies, programmes and projects for addressing the identified deficiencies in our arrangements for effective management of the environment.

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Priority Issues and Problems

In identifying the priority issues to be addressed in our quest for the protection of the Caribbean environment we have proceeded on the basis of full acceptance of the fact that central to all our environmental concerns is our shared desire for man's survival in a manner that is both in harmony with nature and consistent with human welfare.

We have also proceeded on the basis of the recognition that prominent among the features of the natural environment of our countries are our marine spaces and the extensive forest cover of some of our territories.

We have agreed that the following represent the principal areas in which we must organize ourselves at the national and regional levels, with the support of the international community, to develop urgent strategies for action:

(a) orderly land use planning and coordination;
(b) housing and human settlements;
(c) degradation of the coastal and marine environment;
(d) prevention and mitigation of the effects of oil spills;
(e) solid and liquid waste management;
(f) management of toxic and hazardous substances including the control of agri-chemical residues;
(g) dumping of extra-regional, hazardous and toxic wastes in the Region;
(h) water quality and supply;
(i) forest and watershed management;
(j) preservation of genetic resources;
(k) vector control;
(l) disaster preparedness;
(m) preservation of cultural, archaeological and historical resources;
(n) air and noise pollution.

Strategic Approaches to the Solution of the Problems

We are convinced, and agree, that in order to effectively address the problems in these areas, our efforts must be based on use of the following urgently needed strategic approaches which will result in an integrated approach to their solution:

(a) the promotion of public education and awareness at all levels in our societies to enhance consciousness and respect for the environment on the part of our peoples, and to encourage behavioural patterns conducive to its preservation. In this connection we agree that there should, inter alia, be full observance in the Caribbean Community of World Environment Day (5 June) and to coordinate, as far as possible, our respective national programmes for that purpose;

(b) the provision of training and development of human resources in order to produce the cadres of experts within the Region whose vocation will be to undertake the many and varied facets of environmental management;

(c) the formulation of policies and plans, including the requirement for environmental impact assessment, which are essential prerequisites to the rational management of our environment;

(d) the collection, management and dissemination of the information critical to the development of policies, programmes and projects which must be implemented to address the identified problem areas;

(e) the promotion of research based on the reality of the Caribbean situation and aimed at generating solutions to the environmental problems of the Region;

(f) the development of legislative frameworks adequate to the requirements of sound environmental management, and the required machinery for their enforcement;

(g) the promotion of the development of economic pursuits including small scale enterprises which are geared to the enjoyment and enhancement of the environment;

(h) the harnessing of all available political, institutional, and community based resources relevant to the solution of particular environmental problems.

Institutional Arrangements for Consultation and Coordination

It is our clear recognition that in order for practical action to unfold on all the matters that we have set out above, it is absolutely essential that there be effective institutional arrangements at the national and regional levels. We acknowledge that such arrangements are crucial for systematic consultation on and coordination of policy formulation and implementation of programmes and projects.

We are aware that certain institutional arrangements do exist. However, there is need for strengthening some of these and for identifying and filling any existing gaps.

We therefore:

(a) agree that at the regional level Ministers with responsibility for Environmental Matters should meet at appropriate intervals for the purpose of conducting policy and programme review and establishing the goals and guidelines for action; to this end we support the proposal by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago that a Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for the Environment be established;

(b) approve, also at the regional level, the establishment of a consultative forum of agencies whose activities in the region are relevant to the development of Caribbean environmental programmes and projects. The function of this forum will be to pursue the identification of, and the allocation of responsibility for action on programmes, projects and studies relating to the priority problems and strategic approaches set out above. The CARICOM Secretariat will have the responsibility for convening this forum;

(c) reiterate the Community's commitment to the effective development of the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute as a Regional technical, advisory and project implementing facility in the environmental field.

We mandate the CARICOM Secretariat to arrange consultations and negotiations with donor agencies for support to Caribbean environmental programmes and projects on the basis of the policies and guidelines laid down at ministerial level and the results of the work of the consultative forum. In this connection, we express appreciation to those bilateral and multilateral agencies which have been actively supporting these programmes.

We strongly recommend to all governments of the Community that they establish arrangements that would permit an integrated approach to environmental management at the political, technical and administrative levels, and that such arrangements should include a designated focal point which would relate in a coherent manner to the regional and international levels.

In conclusion, we reiterate our firm and unswerving commitment to the rational use and conservation of our environmental resources. We call upon all Caribbean peoples to exercise the respect and reverence for the environment which will ensure its protection for the benefit of future generations.

Port of Spain,
Trinidad and Tobago

2 June 1989

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/13
5 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

Letter dated 29 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency herewith the text of the Concluding Statement of the IDNDR International Conference 1990 JAPAN, held from 27 September to 3 October 1990 in Japan (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would circulate the text of the Concluding Statement as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 12, and the Economic and Social Council, under the appropriate agenda item.

(Signed) Yoshio HATANO
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Concluding Statement of the IDNDR International Conference 1990 JAPAN

In observance of the first year of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and also to welcome the first annual International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction, Japan hosted the IDNDR International Conference 1990 JAPAN from 27 September through 3 October 1990, in the City of Yokohama and in Kagoshima Prefecture. Participating in the Conference were approximately 1,300 administrators, scientists and experts from 43 countries and 16 international organizations.

The participants reported on the damage caused by natural disasters in various parts of the world and discussed the present status of the organizational system for disaster countermeasures (including prevention, preparedness, relief and reconstruction) and the weaknesses of this system in each country. Also discussed were issues relating to the promotion of disaster countermeasures, which will require further study, and problems relating to disaster prevention and reduction that arise as a result of world-wide progress in regional development and urbanization. It was agreed that we need to pay careful attention to these problems. Through the exchange of information and views on natural disasters, the participants gained a greater recognition of the necessity of seeing natural disasters and countermeasures from a global point of view, and they become more strongly motivated to make every effort to realize the goal of the Decade, "A Less Hazardous World in the 21st Century".

To this end, participants agreed, it is necessary that meetings such as this Conference be held in various countries, especially in those where disasters occur frequently. And it is likewise necessary that there be further, concrete discussion of action plans for international co-operation to prevent and reduce the impact of disasters.

Natural hazards know no national boundaries. However, there are considerable differences in the efforts countries are making to prevent them and reduce the damage they do. We must recognize that the enhancement of the disaster prevention efforts of each and every country is of great importance. We should take the view that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and do our utmost to make preventative measures a higher priority in every country. We need to promote international co-operation both to carry out interdisciplinary scientific research on natural disasters and to apply the fruits of that research in actual disaster countermeasures. At the same time, such countermeasures should be rooted in the actual conditions in each region and based on indigenous knowledge of those conditions. We need to establish an information network for disaster countermeasures and an organizational network connecting those bodies concerned, thereby strengthening the disaster prevention and reduction capability of every country. We need to incorporate the disaster prevention approach into the comprehensive development plans of every country and work for regional development that maintains a proper balance between disaster prevention and environmental conservation. Furthermore, we must utilize not only governmental organs but also

the private sector, especially the non-governmental organizations, to these ends. These are all views Japan shares with the other participants in this Conference.

In the discussions that took place at each session, representatives of each country described the problems with which they must cope, and many emphasized that they must be solved on the basis of self-help efforts, although the necessity of further enhancing international assistance and co-operation was also noted. In the course of the discussions, attention was drawn to the major work that must be done in this area. The following is a list of the tasks identified:

1. To raise the awareness of the policy makers of each country as to the importance of disaster countermeasures (prevention, preparedness, emergency relief and reconstruction);

2. To disseminate information about disaster prevention and enhance awareness of disasters on a broad basis (not only among individuals but also among private enterprises and the mass media); to transmit to others the lessons learned from disaster experiences; to educate children about disasters and prevention; and to compile manuals that might aid in these efforts;

3. To maintain a comprehensive file on natural disasters so that the experience and knowledge gained might be put to practical use by the next generation and by other countries; to promote the exchange of information on disaster experiences among developing countries;

4. To develop human resources and institutions to aid in disaster countermeasures; to introduce training courses and organize strategic centres for this purpose;

5. To organize volunteers to carry out disaster countermeasures, and to formulate guidelines for the effective utilization of all who may volunteer their services at the time of an emergency;

6. To collect and edit information and statistics on disasters; to compile and issue white papers on disaster countermeasures in each and every country;

7. To improve the means of communicating disaster information (hardware and software), and to train personnel to understand such information and respond appropriately;

8. To strengthen the international network for collecting information on disaster prevention and promote the exchange of information, for example, data on weather conditions among countries concerned;

9. To provide technical guidance and prepare manuals on the dissemination of disaster prevention technology (for example, seismic building design codes);

10. To prepare hazard maps and formulate land-use plans that are based in part on the concept of disaster prevention;

11. To take necessary disaster preparedness measures in response to the potential danger of disasters caused by the rapid concentration of population and other urban functions in metropolitan areas;

12. To assess the possibility of damage to information systems - for example, those relating to finance or transportation - in a highly industrialized society, and to take necessary preventive measures;

13. To send advisory missions, when requested to do so by disaster-prone countries, and to recommend comprehensive prevention/preparedness plans for disaster countermeasures;

14. To provide orderly emegency relief assistance that will meet the actual needs of countries stricken by disasters;

15. To promote not only emergency relief assistance but also assistance for the restoration and reconstruction of basic infrastructure and other facilities, recogni.ing the crucial need for such assistance after disasters.

The discussions at the IDNDR International Conference 1990 JAPAN enabled us to clarify these major tasks, an accomplishment we regard as the first successful step that has been taken to promote the Decade. We hope that Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations will make them priorities when they formulate their action programmes to promote the Decade.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.2/45/14
10 December 1990
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Forty-fifth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 79

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Letter dated 7 December 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of the Declaration on Dialogue and Co-operation in the Western Mediterranean adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Algeria, France, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia, as well as by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malta, in Rome on 10 October 1990.

I should be grateful if you would have the enclosed text circulated as a document of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under item 79.

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER
Ambassador

ANNEX

Declaration of the Nine on Dialogue and Co-operation in the Western Mediterranean

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Algeria, France, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia, as well as the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malta, as an associated country, met on 10 October 1990 in Rome at the invitation of the Italian Government. The meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs was preceded on 8 October by a preparatory meeting at the level of senior officials.

1. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) and of the four European countries which are members of the European Economic Community (EEC), as well as of Malta, welcomed the holding of this first meeting, representing the culmination of an intense process of consultations. They consider that the positive developments which have occurred in Europe and in the Maghreb have directly contributed to the culmination of their collective efforts. They expressed the view that it is of great importance to harness the potential offered by the new regional context in the Western Mediterranean in order to intensify their efforts to build a framework for dialogue and co-operation upon firm foundations.

2. The Ministers expressed the support of their countries for the principles of the comprehensive nature and indivisibility of security in the Mediterranean and agreed to place their action within the framework of the promotion of peace and co-operation in the entire region.

3. They are of the view that the question of security in the Mediterranean should be considered in the wider context of international security and is closely linked with that of the region as a whole. The Mediterranean countries should benefit from the favourable trends in the field of security and co-operation which are occurring in Europe.

4. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs duly took into consideration the specific characteristics of the Western Mediterranean and decided to develop them in order to establish the region as a zone of peace, co-operation and stability. They are convinced that the advantages arising therefrom for each country and for the subregion of the Western Mediterranean in terms of political stability and economic, social and cultural progress will contribute to the transformation of the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and co-operation.

5. They emphasized that the processes of integration of the "Europe of the Twelve" and also the process begun within AMU are conducive to the reduction of tension, the strengthening of good-neighbourliness and the expansion of economic, social and cultural progress.

6. They noted that these processes embody great potential for strengthening the bonds of co-operation among the countries of the Western Mediterranean on the one

hand, and between AMU and EEC on the other. From this standpoint, they were of the view that the dialogue and co-operation which they envisage for their subregion are such as to enhance, but not replace, future EEC-AMU relations and the Euro-Arab dialogue.

7. The Ministers considered that the wide gaps which currently exist in the levels of development between North and South in the Mediterranean, including the Western Mediterranean, have given rise to imbalances which seriously endanger the stability and well-being of the entire region. In that regard, they demonstrated their earnest intention to foster regional solidarity with the view to reducing the disparities in development. The Ministers expressed their conviction that this regional solidarity will make it possible to prevent the region from being excluded from the mainstream of development. To that end, they will seek to ensure that the processes of integration and co-operation begun in Europe will be simultaneously accompanied by a similar effort of co-operation focused on the Mediterranean region. They considered that this solidarity may be achieved by starting from a stable nucleus in the Western Mediterranean.

8. In that regard, they expressed their conviction that, in order to be effective, such solidarity would require effective ways and means to promote dialogue and co-operation.

9. On the basis of these shared convictions, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the participating countries:

(a) Agree to establish an appropriate framework designed to enhance political dialogue, foster concerted action and engage a collective effort to promote the economic, cultural and social development of the Western Mediterranean. This framework is designed to maintain the momentum for dialogue among the Ministers for Foreign Affairs. The Ministers will meet at least once a year and also whenever necessary, in order to exchange views on questions of common interest, including those relating to the region. The chairmanship of the ministerial meetings will rotate in accordance with the alphabetical order of the countries. Working groups with Maltese participation will be set up through a mechanism for co-ordination among the Nine in order to develop action for co-operation in fields of common interest;

(b) Stress that the dynamic process of dialogue, consultation and co-operation which they are initiating will be of a comprehensive nature embracing political, security, economic, cultural, human and ecological elements;

(c) Agree that economic co-operation will rest on the concept of partnership and will supplement, without supplanting, bilateral co-operation and that decided upon within the framework of EEC and of relations to be established between EEC and AMU.

10. This co-operation will take the form of:

The adoption of specific Mediterranean programmes and projects;

The encouragement of economic development and of cultural, political and security dialogue among the participating countries;

The exchange of views and of information aimed at facilitating the co-ordination of policies and programmes of co-operation in order to render them more coherent and effective.

11. Co-operation in the Mediterranean will draw on the active participation of enterprises, both sides of industry, private investors, regional and local authorities and cultural institutions, while Governments will undertake to create a political climate conducive to arousing the interest of the economic, cultural and scientific circles concerned. Co-operation between the parliaments of the countries may also be envisaged and encouraged.

12. The nine countries, together with Malta, have decided to promote dialogue and concerted action aimed at contributing to the solution of political and security issues of common concern. They have further decided to develop their co-operation on a balanced and mutually advantageous basis in the following priority areas:

(a) The economy:

(i) Promotion of trade (including co-operation with respect to product control standards and certification systems);

(ii) Industrial relations;

(iii) Partnership and investment;

(iv) Energy;

(v) Transport;

(vi) Agriculture and food self-sufficiency;

(vii) Tourism and handicrafts;

(viii) Transfer of technology;

(b) Human resources:

(i) Social affairs, particularly immigration;

(ii) Education and training;

(iii) Scientific research;

(iv) Communications;

(v) Cultural affairs and protection of the cultural heritage;

(vi) Sporting activities;

(c) Natural resources:

(i) Environment (in particular, control of pollution, desertification and natural scourges);

(ii) Disaster preparedness and relief;

(iii) Preservation and protection of fishery resources.

13. To this end, the Ministers agree to take advantage of the possibilities regional co-operation offers by adopting the following specific programmes and projects:

(a) Establishment of a Mediterranean data bank linking their countries and permitting exchange and communication of information in all areas of common interest, particularly in the fields of industry and trade;

(b) Closer co-operation in the social and humanitarian fields:

(i) Activities to promote better knowledge and understanding of and respect for the peoples and cultures on the two shores of the Mediterranean;

(ii) Study of issues relating to migration with a view to promoting the search for mutually acceptable solutions within the relevant forums, particularly with respect to living conditions, residence, freedom of movement and employment;

(c) Development of regional solidarity through joint management of the natural equilibria in the western basin.

14. In the same spirit, the Ministers agree:

(a) To promote the establishment of a multilateral financing institution for the Mediterranean;

(b) To promote solutions capable of resolving the external debt problems of the Maghreb countries and to encourage the search in the competent forums for mechanisms to solve this problem by promoting job creation and taking the various recent initiatives into account;

(c) To promote, through the legislative framework and the appropriate financial institutions, the conduct of projects in the Maghreb countries (promotion of partnership, subcontracting, transfer of technology, etc.);

(d) To enrich the dialogue and cultural, scientific and technical co-operation between the countries of southern Europe and the Maghreb through

Mediterranean action programmes which will permit the development of co-operation between universities and scientific, cultural and educational institutions (training, promotion of youth exchanges, protection and rehabilitation of the cultural heritage).

15. The Ministers consider that the effective launching of such a process of regional co-operation will constitute an additional demonstration of southern Europe's interest in the Maghreb, although without such co-operation taking the form of meetings or prior negotiating mechanisms. This co-operation will also give an indication regarding the future of EEC-AMU relations, which the four Community member countries will seek to promote within the framework of the Twelve.

16. The establishment of sectoral groups by the co-ordination mechanism of the Nine notwithstanding, the Ministers decided on the immediate establishment of working groups in the following priority areas:

(a) Multilateral financing institution for the Mediterranean;

(b) Food self-sufficiency and desertification control;

(c) The debt question;

(d) Issues relating to migration;

(e) Protection of the cultural heritage.

They also emphasized the importance of the early establishment of a Mediterranean data bank, taking into account the existing data banks, particularly that of the Mediterranean Action Plan.

17. The Ministers decided to hold their next meeting at Algiers in 1991, and thanked the Italian Government for its generous invitation and hospitality.